

Hd Qrs, 8th Cav MstM
Lebanon Mo. Feb 20/63

Colonel I have the honor to submit for the Consideration of the Major Genl, Comdg, the following information, which I consider to be worthy of his attention, and which I derive from reliable sources.

Viz: "W. W. Owens, formerly Capt of Co. F
"this Regt, resigned (say Aug, or Sept last) on account
"of ill health, and his resignation was accepted."
"He is now raising, or has already raised in Benton
"County Mo, a Company of men for the ostensible pur-
"pose of doing what Government has left undone.

The news of this has already worked a certain amt. of alarm among men of this Regt. living in that vicinity, and unless the movement is peremptorily stopped may produce serious consequences.

I will here say that I do not think that W. W. Owens is a disloyal man, but he is, from

~~his position, and the fact that he is a member of the~~
~~secessionist party, and is therefore a traitor to the~~
~~Union, and is therefore a dangerous man to~~
~~allow to raise a company of men for the purpose of~~
~~doing what the Government has left undone.~~

manage affairs for himself.

To Lieut. C. S. Charlott

Asst Adj^t Genl MstM

Very Respy. Yours obt Serv

Jos E Collins

Major 8th Cav MstM
Comdg —

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The news of this has already worked a certain amount of harm among Men of the Reg^t living in that vicinity, and unless the movement is peremptorily stopped may produce serious Consequences.

I will here say that I do not think that W W Owens is a disloyal Man, but he is, from his instability and weakness of Character, very apt to forget the existence of Government, & to attempt to Manage Affairs for himself.

To
L^t Co^l C.S.Charlot
Asst Adj^t Genl MSM }
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Very Respy. Your obt Svt
Jno E Collins
Major 8th Cav MSM
Comdg--